



Organized 1970

AMERICAN DOG OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

"To Promote, Protect and Defend Responsible Dog Ownership"

1654 Columbia Turnpike

Castleton, NY 12939 '02 JUL 22 P1:50

518-477-8469 / Fax: 518-477-4034

Internet World Wide Web: <http://www.global2000.net/adoa>

e-mail: adoa@global2000.net

July 12, 2002

Dr. Sharon Benz
Nutrition and Labeling Team, Center for Veterinary Medicine
Food and Drug Administration
7500 Standish Place, HFV-228
Rockville, MD 20855

Dear Dr. Benz:

I am writing to you as an officer of the American Dog Owners Association, which protects, promotes and defends responsible dog ownership. We have recently learned of a pending initiative of the FDA/AAFCO (Food and Drug Administration/American Association of Feed Control Officials) to remove from sale any supplement labeled specifically for animals and containing ingredients targeted by the FDA/AAFCO recommendations, whether it is sold by pet supply outlets, vets, health food stores or thru pet catalogs.

We are not aware of any significant number of adverse events that warrant this drastic action to be considered.

Our membership wants supplements that are designed by Veterinarians or others knowledgeable in animal physiology and that are appropriate in dose and chemistry for their dogs.

We believe that if these supplements are made illegal, research on supplements for our animals will be stifled and we do not believe that to be in the best interests of our members' pets.

With animal supplements removed from sale, people will be left with no choice but to reach for human supplements, which are not formulated for animals. They will have to guess at what course of action is best for the pets they dearly love.

Removal of animal supplements from sale will not solve the problem. Indeed, it will significantly worsen the situation. Please, let's avoid a "new prohibition" of substances that we have used safely and successfully for many years. We support regulation of the industry which ensures quality control and industry-directed clinical research. Let's find a way to ensure quality control and truth in labeling without removing effective supplements made by reputable companies.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Dr. Leon S. Sohn
Vice President
78 Country Bend Road
Franklin, NC 28734

cc:

Dr. John Breitsman
Sen. Jesse Helms
Sen. John Edwards
Congressman Charles Taylor

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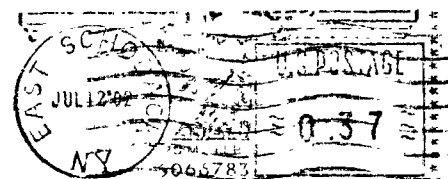


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